Lesson Eight: The Emphatic
[اَلتَّأْكِيْد]

The *emphatic* describes, with emphasis, future actions or events. For example, **لَيَفْعَلَنَّ** means, "verily he will do!"

PRINCIPLE ONE

The *emphatic* is formed by: (1) adding the particle " **لَ** " to the beginning of active and passive voice conjugations of the *present tense verb* and (2) adding a " **نّ** " to their end.[23] (*table 8.1*). Depending on the particular conjugation, the " **نّ** " is voweled with either a *fathah* or a *kasrah*. The particle " **لَ** " is called the *lām of emphasis* (**لاَم اَلتَّأْكِيْد**) and it causes the verb, originally in the state of *rafa'* (**رَفْع**), to become *stateless* (**مَبْنِي**). It also alters the meaning of the verb from the present tense to the future tense with emphasis. Thus, **يَفْعَلُ** (*he does*) becomes **لَيَفْعَلَنَّ** (*verily he will do*!).

ESSENTIAL NOTE

The conjugations of the *emphatic* must be memorized (*table 8.1*) before moving to the next lesson.[24]

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[23] A second pattern for the *emphatic* is formed by (1) adding the particle " **لَ** " to the beginning of the *present tense verb* and (2) adding a " **نْ** " to its end. This pattern is less common than the form presented above and is not discussed in this text.

[24] Detailed rules exist for constructing each of the *emphatic* conjugations from their corresponding *present tense* conjugations (e.g., **لَيَفْعَلُنَّ** from **يَفْعَلُوْنَ**). For the beginner emphasis is placed on memorizing patterns. A comprehensive discussion of these rules is present in higher-level books of Arabic grammar.

TABLE 8.1

THE *EMPHATIC*

PASSIVE VOICE	ACTIVE VOICE
لَيُفْعَلَنَّ Verily he/it (S/M) will be done!	لَيَفْعَلَنَّ Verily he/it (S/M) will do!
لَيُفْعَلَانِّ Verily they (D/M) will be done!	لَيَفْعَلَانِّ[25] Verily they (D/M) will do!
لَيُفْعَلُنَّ Verily they (P/M) will be done!	لَيَفْعَلُنَّ Verily they (P/M) will do!
لَتُفْعَلَنَّ Verily she/it (S/F) will be done!	لَتَفْعَلَنَّ Verily she/it (S/F) will do!
لَتُفْعَلَانِّ Verily they (D/F) will be done!	لَتَفْعَلَانِّ Verily they (D/F) will do!
لَيُفْعَلْنَانِّ Verily they (P/F) will be done!	لَيَفْعَلْنَانِّ Verily they (P/F) will do!
لَتُفْعَلَنَّ Verily you (S/M) will be done!	لَتَفْعَلَنَّ Verily you (S/M) will do!
لَتُفْعَلَانِّ Verily you (D/M) will be done!	لَتَفْعَلَانِّ Verily you (D/M) will do!
لَتُفْعَلُنَّ Verily you (P/M) will be done!	لَتَفْعَلُنَّ Verily you (P/M) will do!
لَتُفْعَلِنَّ Verily you (S/F) will be done!	لَتَفْعَلِنَّ Verily you (S/F) will do!
لَتُفْعَلَانِّ Verily you (D/F) will be done!	لَتَفْعَلَانِّ Verily you (D/F) will do!
لَتُفْعَلْنَانِّ Verily you (P/F) will be done!	لَتَفْعَلْنَانِّ Verily you (P/F) will do!
لَأُفْعَلَنَّ Verily I will be done!	لَأَفْعَلَنَّ Verily I will do!
لَنُفْعَلَنَّ Verily we will be done!	لَنَفْعَلَنَّ Verily we will do!

M=Masculine F=Feminine S=Singular D=Dual P=Plural

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[25] " نِّ " indicates a *nūn* with a *shaddah* that is voweled with a *kasrah*.